

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 909
By Rhinehart

A RESOLUTION to honor Norman Roberts on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those citizens who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, Norman Roberts is one such outstanding person who has served state government with alacrity and acuity for 11 years with the Department of General Services, Surplus Division; and

WHEREAS, Norman exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, on July 14, 1936, Norman Roberts was born in the front bedroom where he presently resides to proud parents Norman and Lida Hackworth Roberts of Dunlap; and

WHEREAS, after Norman graduated from high school in May 1954, the Bay of Pigs Invasion inspired him to go to Cuba in the Spirit of Patriotism, but he only made it to Miami before his mother caught him and rescued her son from what turned out to be certain Death; and

WHEREAS, upon his return, he was nicknamed "Castro" when he began working in Chattanooga for the Dupont Company, a name that he carried for many years;

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WHEREAS, at Dupont Company he was employed as a Bobbin Prep Operator, working his way up the ladder until he retired from a supervisory position at Dupont on April 30, 1985, after over thirty years of loyal and dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, during Norman's term at Dupont he became acquainted with the honorable Arnold Stulce who also worked at Dupont; and

WHEREAS, Norman married Edna Wallace on September 3, 1962, and their blessed union produced one son, Norman Leonard Roberts, Jr., and brought him one stepson, Billy Wallace and one step-daughter, Vickie Wallace Harwood; and

WHEREAS, Edna Wallace went on to her great reward on August 1, 1995; and

WHEREAS, on October 25, 1997, Norman Roberts married Eulanne Sullivan, whose children are Ginger and Jason Sullivan; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts now with one son and four step children making five children altogether, and he is very proud of all of them; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement, he began working in the political campaigns of Jim Lewis, Shelby Rhinehart and Ned McWherter in 1986; and

WHEREAS, then in 1987, he served the General Assembly astutely and with dedication as a legislative aide; and

WHEREAS, he next worked assiduously and with purpose as an employee of the Department of the General Services, Surplus Division, performing compliance checks on county governments; and

WHEREAS, after he retires from state government in July 1998, Norman plans to resume his love of political campaigning and make a nostalgic trip back to the Chickamauga Dam with his cousin, County Executive Bill Harmon of Sequatchie County; and

WHEREAS, Norman's adroit qualities include the uncommon ability to motivate others to fully realize their potential, perhaps the most valuable of all skills; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we extend to Norman Roberts our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.